

Abstract of the Disclosure

Ascorbic acid derivatives of the general formula I: wherein R<1> is a C2-C22 acyl group, an amino acid group, or a C1-C17 alkyl group; R<2> is ammonium or a metal cation; and each of R<3> or R<4>, independently, is hydrogen, a C2-C22 acyl group, an amino acid residue, or a C1-C17 alkyl group, are more stable than ascorbic acid and can be used as a source of vitamin C in pharmaceutical, nutraceutical and cosmetic compositions.